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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY/PTC

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From the  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

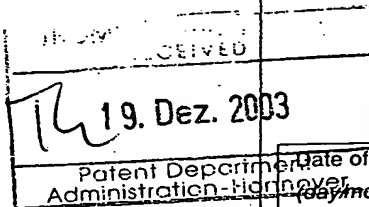
PCT

To:

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NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)



Date of mailing  
(day/month/year)

18.12.2003

Applicant's or agent's file reference  
PD020018

## IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.  
PCT/EP03/02682

International filing date (day/month/year)  
14.03.2003

Priority date (day/month/year)  
26.03.2002

Applicant  
THOMSON LICENSING S.A.

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
4. **REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed inventions is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

Name and mailing address of the international  
preliminary examining authority:



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# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT (PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PD020018	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA416)	
International application No. PCT/EP03/02682	International filing date (day/month/year) 14.03.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 26.03.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC G06F17/30		
Applicant THOMSON LICENSING S.A.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.
 

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of    sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 

I    ☒ Basis of the opinion

II   ☐ Priority

III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention

V   ☒ Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

VI ☐ Certain documents cited

VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application

VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand  29.09.2003	Date of completion of this report  18.12.2003
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div>             European Patent Office              D-80298 Munich              Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d              Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465           </div> </div>	Authorized Officer  vanVoorst tot Voorst, R  Telephone No. +49 89 2399-2448 <div style="text-align: right;"> </div>

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/EP03/02682**

**I. Basis of the report**

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed", and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

**Description, Pages**

1-11 as originally filed

**Claims, Numbers**

1-9 as originally filed

**Drawings, Sheets**

1/2-2/2 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).  
☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).  
☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.  
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.  
☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.  
☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:  
☐ the claims, Nos.:  
☐ the drawings, sheets:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/EP03/02682**

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

*(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)*

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-9
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-9
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-9
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

**see separate sheet**

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/EP03/02682

- D1: DE JONG, A: 'Metadaten in der audiovisuellen Produktionsumgebung' FERNSEH UND KINO-TECHNIK, vol. 55, no. 8-9, August 2001 (2001-08) - September 2001 (2001-09), pages 485-495, XP001065840 BERLIN, DE
- D2: PRZYBYLA, H: 'i\_Broadcast--'Crossmediales' Content Management' FERNSEH UND KINO-TECHNIK, vol. 55, no. 8-9, August 2001 (2001-08) - September 2001 (2001-09), pages 527-533, XP001065846 BERLIN, DE
- D3: CECCARELLI M ET AL: 'Home multimedia systems: on personal video libraries' MULTIMEDIA COMPUTING AND SYSTEMS, 1999. IEEE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FLORENCE, ITALY 7-11 JUNE 1999, LOS ALAMITOS, CA, USA, IEEE COMPUT. SOC, US, 7 June 1999 (1999-06-07), pages 1082-1085, XP010519568 ISBN: 0-7695-0253-9
- D4: '1ST-1999-11702: myTV - personalised services for digital television; Final Report, Date March-02, pages 1-23' XP002220956 Retrieved from the Internet: <URL: <http://www.extra.research.philips.com/euprjects/mytv/myTV%20Final%20project%20o>> [retrieved on 2002-11-11]
- D5: PFEIFFER S ET AL: 'TV ANYTIME AS AN APPLICATION SCENARIO FOR MPEG-7' PROCEEDINGS ACM MULTIMEDIA 2000 WORKSHOPS. MARINA DEL REY, CA, NOV. 4, 2000, ACM INTERNATIONAL MULTIMEDIA CONFERENCE, NEW YORK, NY: ACM, US, vol. CONF. 8, 4 November 2000 (2000-11-04), pages 89-92, XP001003701 ISBN: 1-58113-311-1
- D6: 'Specification Series: S-3, On: Metadata (Normative), Document: SP003v1.1' 17 August 2001 (2001-08-17) , THE TV-ANYTIME FORUM , PAGES 1-66, <WWW.TV-ANYTIME.ORG> XP002205700 cited in the application
- D7: 'MPEG-7 APPLICATIONS DOCUMENT V.10' ISO/IEC JTC1/SC29/WG11/ N3934, XX, XX, January 2001 (2001-01), pages 1-41, XP000989427
- D8: HOFFMANN H: 'INTERFACES, PROTOKOLLE UND METADATEN IN ZUKUENFTIGEN FERNSEHSTUDIOS' RUNDFUNKTECHNISCHE MITTEILUNGEN, MENSING. NORDERSTEDT, DE, vol. 43, no. 1, March 1999 (1999-03), pages 18-28, XP000824064 ISSN: 0035-9890
- D9: WO 01 75884 A (HARRADINE VINCENT CARL ;DAVID MORGAN WILLIAM AMOS (GB); MCGRATH MA) 11 October 2001 (2001-10-11)

**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

- 1). According to the present application, because the capacity of digital storage media for personal video recordings grows continuously, the enormous amount of data requires new ways to organize the recordings, search for content and access specific recordings. Furthermore, one possible solution for this is the use of meta data, defined as data about data (for example Title, Genre, Summary) for the recorded content television program). The content to which metadata are related is called "essence" (for example audio-visual element)..
- 2). The present application discloses that often several different metadata may be available describing the same content. However, these metadata may have different associated meanings (semantics) and ways of coding (syntax), which are defined in respective standards. For example, the compression standards for AV streams MPEG-1, MPEG-2 and MPEG-4 contain some program specific information (PSI), specified in the respective MPEG systems standard, and the MPEG-7 standard will offer metadata elements and their structure and relationships, that are defined in the form of Descriptors and Description Schemes to create descriptions of the multimedia content.

The problem to be solved is to allow the use of metadata originating from different sources having different semantics or syntax (so as to allow the technical activities of organizing, searching for, and accessing specific recordings).

- 3). According to the present invention original metadata ODR<sub>i</sub> are received from different sources and unified metadata UDR<sub>j</sub> are derived from said original metadata using one or more transformation rules Tk, wherein said rules specify how the content or parts of the content of said original metadata shall be used to constitute the content or part of the content of said unified data.

As explained in the present application, there are different transformers for different metadata sources, like e.g. a transformer XML-SI for the transformation of DVB-SI data or a further transformer XML-TT for the transformation of Teletext or Closed Caption data. The transformers transform the metadata from their

native coding. e.g. DVB-SI binary format, into an XML representation.

Thus it appears that changing the functional characteristics of the data affects the role played by these data in a corresponding technical process or data.

The claimed methods thus have a technical character.

- 4). The cited prior art appears to be not relevant, see for example D7.

D7 discloses (see pages 29 - 33) that the amount of audiovisual (AV-) content that is transmitted over optical, wireless and wired networks is growing, and that within each of these networks there are a variety of AV-terminals that support different formats (different network bandwidth constraints, varying display capacities, processing power and memory capacity of the terminals). To avoid storing the content in different compressed representations for different network bandwidths and different AV-terminals, low-delay and real-time transcoding from one format to another is required. Additionally, it is critical that subjective quality be preserved. To meet these requirements, Transcoding Hints have been defined by the MPEG-7 standard.